

## Today's News - Tuesday, May 6, 2014

- Bernstein reports on "perhaps the strangest turn" in the long-running saga of Rudolph's Orange County Government Center in Goshen, NY: Gene Kaufman of Gwathmey Siegel Kaufman offers to buy it and "convert it to private use, perhaps as artists' studios" (will be interesting to see where this goes - if anywhere).
- Ferro talks to HUD's Donovan: "Though ideas floated in the Rebuild by Design competition are intentionally site-specific, the process of the competition itself may be scalable to other resiliency challenges" - and improve the way government works (what a concept!).
- Santander, Spain, may be "the smartest smart city" that is "changing the way Europe thinks about cities," but "where some see smart cities, others fear a new form of governance based on algorithms rather than human experience."
- Flint parses two new surveys that show why cities "can't, and shouldn't dismiss" Millennials (and baby boomers).
- A look into how Mithun is transforming a giant Seattle mall parking lot into an oh-so-green walkable community (mass transit included).
- Burns takes an in-depth look at Atlanta's BeltLine: "What makes it potentially so transformative is that, unlike the hundreds of 'rails to trails' projects, it is designed as a transportation project" though the "mass transit component is lagging, and there are already affordability concerns" (great read!).
- Kamin cheers efforts to rethink Gruen's 1962 enclosed mall in a Chicago 'burb from a car-centric shopping center into a pedestrian-friendly Main Street, but laments that it is more "an awkward hybrid" that really "needs a little more life."
- Landon cheers Buffalo's resurgence where "architectural preservation is playing a key role in the city's renewal, and "creating new works rather than shuttering old ones" (with great pix by Clemence!).
- A fascinating look at L.A.'s South Central Urban Farm, and "the rollercoaster story of the farmers' struggle to remain, their relocation, and the continued success of their initiative...as a long-term sustainable model."
- Russell tackles free speech and public space, and how "the fate of those few hundred square feet - now in the hands of the Supreme Court...could muddle, if not seriously impair, free-speech rights in public places" (are we depressed yet?).
- Lamster, on a brighter note, cheers Carpenter's "Light Veil" wrapping the Cotton Bowl stadium and "bringing a sense of visual delicacy to a work of corporate architecture."
- The formerly nomadic Chicago Design Museum hits its Kickstarter mark, signs a lease for space in the Block 37 building, and plans a show to open in June (just in time for AIA and AIGA conventions!).
- A fabulous follow-up on Hertz's house made from a Boeing 747
- the trials, tribulations, and ultimate triumph - with pix to prove it (now, there's another 747 turning into a hostel on an unused runway at a Stockholm airport).
- Eyefuls of the winners in the competition to design an architecture school in Dubai.
- One we couldn't resist: a "bizarre-looking" loo on Wellington's waterfront in New Zealand is drawing raves as one of the best places "on earth to spend a penny" (bizarre is putting it mildly!).
- Call for entries: 2015 SAH International Travel Grants to "enable historians from underrepresented countries to attend the Society of Architectural Historians 68th Annual Conference in Chicago next year."

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**Gwathmey Siegel Buyer Looks to Purchase a Paul Rudolph Building:** The long-running saga over the Orange County Government Center...took perhaps its strangest turn...Gene Kaufman...offered to buy the building...and convert it to private use, perhaps as artists' studios. By Fred A. Bernstein -- Gwathmey Siegel Kaufman & Associates Architects; designLAB Architects - Architectural Record

**HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan On How Design Can Prepare Us For Climate Change:** Though ideas floated in the Rebuild by Design competition are intentionally site-specific...the process of the competition itself may be scalable to other resiliency challenges..."We saw this is as a way to get design innovation for the way government works." By Shaunacy Ferro - Fast Company

**Santander: The Smartest Smart City:** The Spanish city is embedded with more than 12,000 sensors to help the government operate as efficiently as possible. It's changing the way Europe thinks about cities...Where some see smart cities, others fear a new form of governance based on algorithms rather than human experience. - Governing Magazine

**What Millennials Want—And Why Cities Are Right to Pay Them So Much Attention:** ...two recent surveys show they can't, and shouldn't, be dismissed...The key characteristics seem to be walkability, good schools and parks...Millennials [and] baby boomers...want many of the same things: ...technology-enabled cities, and housing that would allow "aging in place." By Anthony Flint [links] - The Atlantic Cities

**How A Giant Mall Parking Lot Turned Into A Park And A Walkable Community:** Instead of paving paradise for a parking lot, this Seattle shopping center is showing how America's suburbs are changing: There are now nearly 400 LEED-certified apartments going up where cars once parked...complete with a new park that's helping restore a creek for local salmon...Thornton Place. -- Mithun [images] - Fast Company

**Can Atlanta Go All In on the BeltLine?** The project's been a huge early success, but the mass transit component is lagging, and there are already affordability concerns along completed portions of the trail...true transformation will not be measured in residential units and miles of paved trail...What makes it potentially so transformative is that, unlike the hundreds of "rails to trails" projects nationwide, it is designed as a transportation project. By Rebecca Burns -- Ryan Gravel [images] - The Atlantic Cities

**Suburban mall makeover needs a little more life:** ...the Chicago area's first enclosed shopping center and a Space Age wonder when it opened in 1962...now quaintly named Randhurst Village, is the local epicenter of a national design movement that seeks to transform car-centric shopping centers into pedestrian-friendly Main Streets. The new Randhurst, however, is an awkward hybrid of the two. By Blair Kamin -- Victor Gruen; Beame Architectural Partnership; 505 Design - Chicago Tribune

**Buffalo Looks to Past Architectural Triumphs to Define Its Future:** Architectural preservation is playing a key role in the city's renewal: ...prospering in ways few would have predicted even five years ago...using its great buildings "to counter the conventional storyline about Buffalo as a city in irreversible decline"...creating new works rather than shuttering old ones... By Robert Landon and Paul Clemence -- H.H. Richardson; Louis Sullivan; Frederick Law Olmsted; Daniel Burnham; Eliel and Eero Saarinen; Toshiko Mori; Francis Cauffman [images] - Metropolis Magazine

**Surviving South Central:** The rise, fall, and rise of a Los Angeles urban garden: South Central Urban Farm...once the largest urban garden in the USA...between 1994 and 2006...was bulldozed for development...the rollercoaster story of the farmers' struggle to remain, their relocation, and the continued success of their initiative -- highlighting the issues that urban farms face as a long-term sustainable model. - Uncube magazine (Germany)

**Will Abortion Politics Rewrite Free Speech in Public Space?** ...the fate of those few hundred square feet -- now in the hands of the Supreme Court -- may transform the use of public space...this case could muddle, if not seriously impair, free-speech rights in public places. By James S. Russell - Next City (formerly Next American City)

[James Carpenter gift-wraps the Cotton Bowl: ... "Light Veil," a skirt of metal ribbons that clings to the stadium at its ends, shielding it from the sun...bringing a sense of visual delicacy to a work of corporate architecture, in this case the \[2013\] \\$24 million renovation of the historic Fair Park stadium by Heery International. By Mark Lamster \[images\]- Dallas Morning News](#)

[Chicago Design Museum launches Kickstarter drive: After years of roving the city — including stints aboard an L car...the museum is looking to set down roots... just signed a lease for space in the Block 37 building...exhibition set to open in June...will showcase the evolution of communication... -- Tanner Woodford; Mark Dudlik \[video\]- Chicago Tribune](#)

[A house made from aeroplane parts: A unique house has taken shape in the foothills of the Santa Monica Mountains, with the component parts of Boeing 747s cut up and integrated - with some physical difficulty - into the house...likened to "using every part of the buffalo, like the Native Americans did" ...the message...has been heard far and wide, with another 747 being converted into a hostel to sit on a disused runway at Stockholm airport... -- David Hertz/Studio for Environmental Architecture \[images\]- DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine \(UK\)](#)

[\[DUBAI\] Architecture School Tower competition winners -- Evan Shieh/Ali Chen \(U.S.\); Niculae Grama/Valentin Ionascu/Mihai Chisarau/Marius Pandele \(Romania\); Kacper Radziszewski/Jakub Grabowski \(Poland\) \[images\]- \[AC-CA\] Architectural Competition/Concours d'Architecture](#)

[Loo designer flushed with success after public acclaim: A New Zealand designer is flushed with success after his bizarre-looking public loos were voted the third best place on earth to spend a penny... towering toilets at the Kumutoto precinct on Wellington's waterfront... -- Bret Thurston/Studio Pacific Architecture \[image\]- New Zealand Herald](#)

[Call for entries: 2015 SAH International Travel Grants: ... will enable historians from underrepresented countries to attend the SAH 68th Annual Conference in Chicago; deadline: September 1 - Society of Architectural Historians \(SAH\)](#)



[Interview: Patrik Schumacher: Zaha Hadid Architects' director talks about the global rise of parametric design, the advent of robotics in architecture, and the influence of 'The Matrix' on creating intelligent buildings. By Kevin Holden Platt \[images\]](#)

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